

## Weekly Column for August 26

It is with great enthusiasm this week that I am pleased to announce the hiring of six new firefighters. The six new recruits will join the members of Troy's Bravest in several weeks, after they enjoy their basic training.

But first they will be sworn in on Friday in front of family, friends, City Hall workers, and a few television cameras. It is an exciting time, and I love it when we inject new blood into a certain department. These guys are going to be great, they are all ready to work, and I am proud that they want to join the City of Troy and protect its people.

So without further ado, the gentlemen that will be joining the Fire Department are as follows: Christopher Mayr, Joseph Henkel, Michael DeForge, David Stevens, George Genthner, and Christopher Guerin. All of them are from Troy, and in a unique twist, five of them grew up, or attended school, in Lansingburgh. It was just one of those circumstances that come up every now and then, but the relationship between the individuals from one area should be great. You never know, someone might make a movie out of it someday.

Also tomorrow, we will be giving out two promotions. Conrad Moss is being promoted from Lieutenant to Captain. Congratulations to Conrad and his family. Also, we will be promoting William McIntyre from firefighter to Lieutenant. Congratulations to him as well.

Like all of the individual departments in the City, I am very proud of the Fire Department. During my first month in office, many of you will remember the three-alarm fire in Lansingburgh that destroyed a group of houses on 119<sup>th</sup> Street. That was my first real introduction to the Fire Department as Mayor, and I was amazed by what I saw. With temperatures sitting below zero, these guys busted their butts to put the fire out as quickly as possible. They had icicles hanging from their helmets. They tried to warm themselves in between stints near the blaze. I was proud to be Mayor at that moment.

Now, I believe that these new additions to the department will make me proud someday. The addition of the six brings our department, one of the best in the state, to 120 strong. Often they go overlooked, but I hope everyone realizes what it is they do everyday they are at work.

That is all for this week. If you need to get in touch with me for any reason, please call 270-4401, or e-mail me at the Mayor's Office.

Harry J Tutunjian  
Mayor of Troy